

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
October 12, 2015

MINUTES

St. John's Properties
1800 N. Prospect Ave
1:00 PM

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

Chair Falk-Palec called the October meeting of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities to order at 1:10pm.

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chair Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present: Luis Arroyo, Deb Falk-Palec, Tom Jacobs, Denise Koss, Cheri Mc Grath, Marcia Perkins, Susan Pickering, Kathryn Zalewski

Commissioners Absent or Excused: John Haupt, Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Barbara Leigh, Meg Steimle, Andrzej Walz-Chojnacki

Staff: Mike Bonk, Tim Ochnikowski

Guests: Tom Kenney – MTS

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September)

Commissioner Koss moved to approve the September minutes. Hearing no discussion, Chair Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as written.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORT

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Mr. Kenney gave a New Freedom update. Items highlighted include the community outreach program, 27 new bus pads this year and over 250 since the program began, travel training 65 people this year, operator training, grant extension, ADA training. Discussion took place regarding White Cane Day at the courthouse, ADA Boardings on fixed route, New Freedom rides on fixed route, and getting an article in the paper highlighting the savings of the new freedom program.

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

Commissioner Pickering gave an overview of the Trust Fund request received from the Ability Center for the RampUp MKE project at Bradford Beach. The request is for \$1,100 to be used to complete their fundraising goal of \$10,000 which will allow them to purchase a 3rd beach wheelchair that will be donated to the County Parks Department for free use by persons with disabilities at Bradford Beach. A video presentation regarding this project was shown. Commissioner Pickering moved to approve the expenditure of \$1,100 from the Commission's Trust Fund to support the purchase of a 3rd beach wheelchair within the RampUp MKE project from the Ability Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zalewski. Discussion took place regarding the request. Following the discussion, ACTION: the vote passed unanimously.

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (July, August & September)

Hearing no questions or comments regarding the monthly reports, Mr. Ochnikowski indicated that he will be attending the County Board's Finance Committee tomorrow to present the office's operating and capital budget requests for 2016.

ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Bonk indicated that the recreation program at Underwood has seen an increase in attendance and activity. We're processing a 1 year extension of the recreation contract with Easter Seals. We'll be putting out a smaller and easier RFP next year for a 3 year contract for recreation programming. Presented the recreation program and activities at the

Care in the Community Conference. Highlights of the activities of Disabilities Awareness Month were given. The art show artist's reception had great attendance and some great sponsors. The Hobbs Award winner was chosen. She will be attending our December meeting to receive her check and talk about her art piece. The annual Flash Mob at the courthouse is happening this Thursday, which will happen along with food truck Thursday. Goodwill will be hosting a fashion show at Underwood. The office has joined the Milwaukee Bucks TicketPASS Program, which offers discount tickets to select games throughout the season. We anticipate receiving tickets to the Folk Fair again this year.

Chair Falk-Palec mentioned the survey being conducted by the Medical College of Wisconsin regarding adaptive sports and recreation. (See the Rec Room for access to the information, <http://county.milwaukee.gov/RecRoom>)

Chair Falk-Palec gave an overview of the Bike Share Committee meeting that took place prior to the commission meeting. The committee will be reviewing the ADA, Section 504 and DOT regulations regarding requirements to provide accessibility to bike share programs receiving Federal funds. Discussed was the need for a needs assessment to be completed and the offer from UWM last month to do the needs assessment. Mr. Kenney indicated that there may be some FTA grant money for this and he'll check into that. Discussion took place regarding the several alternative equipment options, and the desire of the commission to make it known to the administration that the commission is interested in and working on gaining alternative equipment into the bike share program in Milwaukee. Also mentioned was that Bublr Bikes has offered to host a meeting of this committee, as well as a commission meeting, at their location in Schlitz Park. The office will try to set this up for the November meetings.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chair Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:20pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, November 9, 2015 at 1:00pm at Schlitz Park (1555 N. Rivercenter Dr, Conference Room #2, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk and Tim Ochnikowski, Staff to the Commission